Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging Show Kindness Make Choices Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 8 | 6th November 2026

What has been happening?

Welcome back to the second term of the school year. The children have all come back into school super excited and full of chat about halloween and their half term holiday. They are also looking very smart in their uniform and we are sure many of them have grown taller.

This is a very exciting term in school, with a lot happening and of course we begin to prepare for our Festive performances.

Reception PE Lessons

Our Reception children began their formal PE lessons this term. They are incredibly lucky to have a block of lessons with our kickboxing coach from Little Samurai, who runs our Wednesday morning club. They will be working on their big movement skills, spatial awareness and body control. The first lesson looked brilliant, with lots of games and enjoyment, and they were all so engaged.

The coach was very impressed with the children's listening and learning behaviours.

A Hedgehog in Little Alwyn

Many of our children became very concerned on Monday when they found a hedgehog running around the wheeled area in Little Alwyn. Hedgehogs are naturally nocturnal so it is unusual to find one in the daytime and it did look very small and confused.



We contacted Tiggy Winkles for advice and took it to a rescue centre. The hedgehog is much better and has been released into the centres wildlife area. A brilliant example of how our children care the environment and the animals we share it with.

Diwali - Wishing all of our families celebrating a very Happy Diwali! May the Festival of Lights bring peace, warmth, joy, and prosperity to your homes. We hope you have a wonderful celebration with your loved ones!



Remembrance Day We are selling poppies in school on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to raise money for the Royal British Legion. If you wish, you can send your child into school with a donation and our Year 2 children will visit the classes each morning with the donation container and poppies.

We will also hold a 2-minute silence in school on Remembrance Day and the children will learn about its significance. It would be lovely if you could also discuss this with your children and you may wish to watch the BBC film clip.



Look out for more school news on our Alwyn facebook page or Instagram.

The Alwyn Aims



These are the rules we all try to follow:

- Use kind hands, feet and words
- Say how we feel
- Look and listen
- Look after our things
- Always do our best

Remember to Order Lunches

All hot dinners must be pre-ordered in advance. The deadline for ordering lunches is 8am on the day the lunch is wanted.

If your child does not have a packed lunch or ordered a school lunch, they will be given a plain jacket potato with fruit for dessert.

Please talk about the menu with your child and check that they are happy with their lunch choice as we are unable to change it on the day.

School lunches for infant age children are fully funded so parents do not pay for them. They are yummy!

Moving to Junior School

Families of Year 2 children will need to apply for a junior school place for September 2027. Applications open from 11th November 2026 until 15th January 2027.

It is important to complete the application before the deadline to secure a space.

This process is also the same for a child due to begin Reception in September 2027.

Further information can be found the RBWM website.

Responsible Behaviour Curriculum in Alwyn and Courthouse

Our vision is to develop well rounded, confident and responsible children who aspire to achieve their full potential. We want our children to do their best in all aspects of school life - work, play, friendships and behaviour, and to take pride in all they do. We want them to develop respect and a sense of responsibility for themselves, each other, property, the wider community and the environment. To support this aim, we follow a behaviour curriculum that is explicitly taught and also weaves throughout the whole of school life.

Each week, the classes explore a different theme. They have a Monday 'check-in' circle time to introduce it and set a goal to work towards throughout the week. On Wednesday, the Year 1 and 2 assembly is time to think about the whole school approach to the theme. They celebrate their successes with a Friday 'check-out' circle time in their class.

To support this learning, there is a weekly leaflet for parents (below) to introduce the theme and sometimes gives ideas on how to help.

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC IS

AGE-APPROPRIATE RESPONSIBILITY



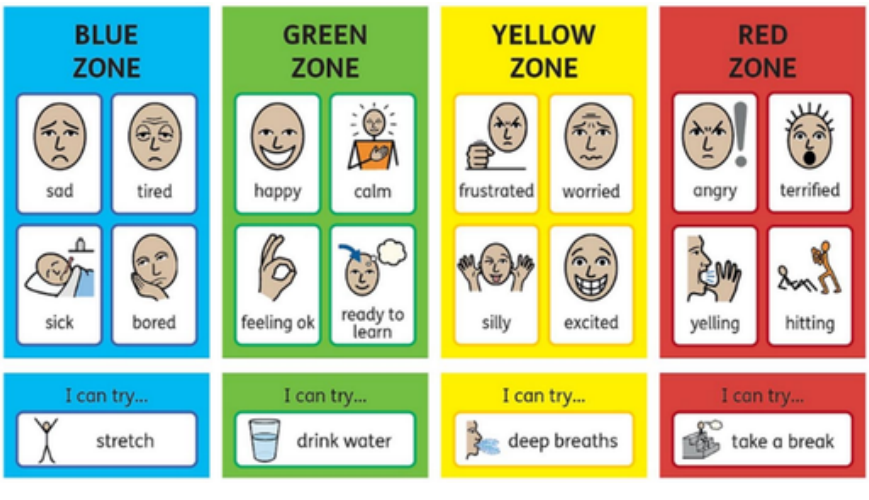
Age-appropriate responsibility ideas.

Ages 3 to 5	Ages 6 and 7	Ages 8 and 9	Ages 10 and 11
Help adults with tidying up Laying the table for dinner Put dirty washing in the basket Put on their own shoes when everyone is getting ready to leave the house	Get them to follow their own morning routine - e.g. getting dressed, eating breakfast, brushing teeth Let them choose dinner once a week - it has to be nutritious for everyone Choose something to donate to charity once every school holiday	Unload the dishwasher or dry up washing up Create a 'looking after the family pet' chart for the child to follow Ensure children pack their own school bag - have a timetable so they know when they need PE kit etc and teach them how to follow it	Have a chore rota Use an app or set up a budget plan - give pocket money and some has to be saved etc Support time management by giving a set time for something to be completed by e.g. homework/chores

What is meant by responsibility?

- Responsibility is the state of being accountable for our actions, obligations, or duties.
- Responsibility involves the recognition and acceptance of the consequences, both positive and negative, that result from our choices and behaviours.
- Being able to accept our responsibilities has been proven to support children in being more successful in their later lives.
- Modelling and talking about responsibility is an important way for children to learn as is giving children some responsibility in the home.

The Responsible Behaviour Curriculum



These zones of regulation are also a great way to help the children think about and identify their feelings, along with an idea to help manage them.

What have Reception been learning this week?

This term in reception, the theme is dark and light. We focused on Bonfire night and fireworks; why we celebrate it, and how to keep safe. In maths we have been exploring pattern and strengthening our understanding of counting objects, sounds and actions. In phonics we have learnt the sounds r, b and h, as well as revisiting previously learnt sounds. In PSHE we have been talking about how I'm special and you're special, where we had to look at our friend and identified how we are the same and different. We also started PE this week. The children were super excited and very well behaved, which the instructor commented on. They were learning to take turns, by running a group at a time and high fiving the other group. The were also shown how to stand so that they didn't fall over and played a freeze game.

Ask me to tell you how to keep safe around fireworks
Ask me to play simon says where you take it in turns to say the action and the amount of times. E.g. tap your head 3 times
Ask me to look at you and discuss how you are the same and how you are different. E.g. tall/short, eye colour, hair, 2 eyes etc
Ask me to show how to stand with my guard up

Next week in Floppy's phonics, we will be learning sounds f, l, ll, and j. In maths, we will be creating patterns, subitising and comparing groups. In Talk 4 writing will be learning about Diwali.

Reception PE day is a Wednesday

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

Welcome back! It has been a lovely first week of the new term in Year 1, filled with fantastic progress and lots of enthusiasm. In English, the children blew us away during their writing assessment, where they crafted brilliant animal descriptions by putting all the descriptive tools, punctuation and sentence-building skills they've learned so far this year into action. In maths, we introduced the "part-part-whole" model, using hands-on resources to explore how numbers break down into smaller parts. Science saw us launch an exciting new topic all about the human body as we began identifying and naming different body parts. In DT, we turned into mini-engineers by experimenting with various joining techniques–from split pins and folding to gluing, slots and tabs. In PSHE, we celebrated our individual qualities by discussing what makes each of us unique and special while appreciating our similarities and differences. To top off a wonderful week, we've officially started learning the songs for our Christmas show and the singing is already sounding delightful!

Ask me to describe my animal and show off the amazing adjectives and sentences I used in English!
Ask me to explain how a part-part-whole model works using toys or objects at home.
Ask me to name and point to some of the main body parts we learned about in Science.
Ask me about the different ways we can join paper and card together in DT.
Ask me what makes me unique and special and if I can sing you one of our new Christmas songs!

Next week we'll be learning a new text map based on the Oliver Jeffers' book 'How to Catch a Star'.

This term, the Year 1 PE days are:
Tuesday: Mr Baker
Thursday: Gymnastics with Miss White

KEY DATES!

School Year 2026-2027

Autumn Term 2

26th - 30th October
Half Term Holiday- no school
Autumn Term 2

11th November
Remembrance Day

13th November
Children in Need Day- own clothes with spots or stripes for £1 donation

16th - 20th November
Anti bullying Week

16th November
Odd Socks Day

26th November
PTA Elfridges shop for Year 1 & 2

27th November
Non-Uniform Day- bottle for tombola
PTA Elfridges shop for Reception

28th November
PTA Festive Fete

8th & 9th December, 9.30am
Reception performances (same performance each day)

10th December
Festive or own jumper day and festive lunch

15th & 16th December, 9.30am
Year 1 performances
(same performance each day)

16th December, 2.30am
Year 2 Sing-a-long with parents/carers

18th December
Last day of term.
Early finish at 1.30pm

21st December - 1st January
School Holidays

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

What a great week back after the holidays! The children were excited to catch up with their friends and share their holiday news. In maths, we have been using our number bond knowledge to 10 to work out addition calculations. We have worked with dienes and part whole models and made a multiple of 10 before adding the numbers together. In english, we have started work on the book Vlad and the Great Fire of London by Kate Cunningham. It is a topic that the children really enjoyed learning about in history and it is exciting that they can use their knowledge and imagination in their english work. In science we thought about exercise and carried out an investigation. First, we predicted which exercise we thought would raise our heart rate and then we did the exercise for one minute and measured our heart rate. Our predictions were pretty accurate. In DT, our topic is bread making. The children were engaged watching a clip from seed to flour, especially when they saw a combine harvester and tried hard not to burst into their harvest song about a big, red combine harvester!

Ask me to name an exercise that raised my heart rate
Ask me to tell you something that stayed the same during our science investigation
Ask me to quickly recall my number bonds to 10
Ask me to tell you who Vlad and Boxton are
Ask me to retell the story of Vlad and Boxton

Next week, we are learning about the United Kingdom in geography.

Pine - Mondays and Tuesdays
Holly and Spruce - Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Congratulations!
A huge 'well done' to all the children who have been in the golden book, this week.

We are very proud of you!



KEY DATES!

School Year 2026-2027
Autumn Term 2

4th January
Children return to school

11th-15th January
Music Week- family members who play instruments invited in to perform

8th - 12th February
Book Week
Book Fair after school

10th February
Story Bus Visit

15th - 19th February
Half Term and Reading Challenge

22nd February
Children return to school

22nd - 26th February
Art/DT Week

4th March
World Book Day

9th & 11th March
Parent/teacher meetings

15th - 19th March
Grown Ups into School afternoons

19th March
Comic Relief/Red Nose Day

25th March
Last day of term
early finish at 1.30pm

26th March - 9th April
School holidays

12th April
Children return to school

26th April
IT Workshops with 3

3rd May
Bank Holiday- no school

PTA Festive NEWSLETTER



It's Christmas!!

The Autumn term is in full swing, and the PTA is already gearing up for a festive November. We've planned a fantastic run of events and hope families will join in and help us make the season magical for the children.

ChristmasFair-28th Nov

Our biggest event of the season. Expect stalls, games, festive treats, raffles, crafts, and plenty of Christmas cheer. It's a wonderful community event and a key fundraiser for both schools.

And don't forget to Bring a Bottle or Chocolate to school on the 27th November

Elfridges

Elfridges is back –our festive pop-up shop where children can choose a special gift for someone they love. Each gift is £3.

- 24th November – Y3 and Y5 Elfridges – Buy Tickets
- 25th November – Y4 and Y6 Elfridges – Buy Tickets
- 26th November – Y1 and Y2 Elfridges – Buy Tickets
- 27th November – Reception Elfridges – Buy Tickets

Can you help?

Our Christmas events rely on the support of our amazing parent volunteers. Whether you can spare an hour at the fair, help set up Elfridges, donate items, or assist behind the scenes, we'd love to have you involved.

You can sign up to help here – SIGN UP HERE

Contact us

alwynandcourthousepta@yahoo.co.uk



2027 SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Applying for a primary school place for September 2027 entry?

Do you have a child with a date of birth between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023?

If so, you should apply for a full-time school place from **11 November 2026**

The closing date for on-time applications is **15 January 2027**



How to apply:

Please use the QR code to visit our webpage
Please ensure you read the online guide for Admission into Primary School September 2026 **BEFORE** completing your application.

MORE INFO!

For any further guidance please call Customer Contact Centre on 01628 683870
or email rbwm.admissions@achievingforchildren.org.uk

achieving for children

Community Pages

Community Events Disclaimer: Please note that the events listed are organised by external parties and are not endorsed or recommended by Alwyn Infant School. We provide this information as a courtesy to our community. We advise families to exercise their own discretion and judgement when participating in any events or activities.









Penalty Notice Changes

Term Time Leave is only allowed in exceptional circumstances and must be agreed, in advance, by the Head of School. An Exceptional Leave form must be completed and the school may ask for further evidence to support the application.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

- £160 per parent, per child, paid within 28 days.
- Reduced to £80 per parent if paid within 21 days.

Please ensure you communicate all absences for your child to school.

Second Offence

Within 3 years, if a second Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be

- £160 per parent, per child, paid within 28 days.
- No reduction for early payment.

Third Offence Onwards - Within 3 years of the first offence

The third time an offence is committed for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the magistrates court.
Fines can be around £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found to be guilty in the magistrate's court can show as a criminal record.

Notices to Improve

A Notice to Improve is a final opportunity for a parent to engage in support and improve before a penalty notice is issued. If the national threshold has been met and support is appropriate but offers of support have not been engaged with by the parent or guardian or have not worked, a Notice to Improve should usually be sent to give parents or guardians a final chance to engage in support.
A Notice to Improve does not need to be issued in cases where support is not appropriate and an authorised officer can choose not to issue one in any case, including cases where support is appropriate but they do not expect a Notice to Improve would have any behavioural impact (because the parent has already received one for a similar offence).

If sufficient improvement is not made following the service of a Notice to Improve, a penalty notice may be issued either during or at the end of the designated time period.

Don't forget.
Penalty Notices are issues Per Parent, Per Child.
For example 3 siblings absent would result in each parent receiving 3 fines. This could amount to £960

Click this link to visit the school website for further information.

10 sessions in 10 weeks
Penalty Notices will be considered for any 10 sessions (not days) of unauthorised absence in 10 weeks.

5 Consecutive days of term time leave can trigger a Penalty Notice

Punctuality

Children in Reception should be at the classroom door by 8.45am.
Children in Years 1 and 2 should be at their classroom door by 8.50am.
The school gates are locked at 8.55am. If your child arrives to school after this time, your child will receive an unauthorised late mark- this affects your child's attendance.
If arriving late, you must bring your child into the school office and sign them into school with a reason for the lateness.